

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A list presentation method comprising the steps of:
  - dynamically grouping selected items in a list based on sequentially positioned symbols in said items which are common to one another;
  - labeling each group of selected items;
  - audibly presenting each group label through a speech user interface; and,
  - responsive to a selection of one of said audibly presented group labels, presenting through said speech user interface items in a group corresponding to said selected group label.
2. The list presentation method of claim 1, wherein the grouping step comprises the steps of:
  - parsing a list of items into component symbols;
  - identifying among said parsed items sequentially positioned component symbols which are common as between at least two of said items; and,
  - associating in a group said at least two items having said identified component symbols in common.
3. The list presentation method of claim 2, wherein the labeling step comprises the steps of:
  - forming a label based on said sequentially positioned component symbols which are common as between said at least two of said items; and,
  - assigning said formed label to said association.
4. The list presentation method of claim 1, wherein the grouping step comprises the step of:
  - sorting said list alphabetically based on initial symbols in said items in said list;

4 further sorting said list alphabetically based on subsequent sequentially encountered  
 5 symbols in said items in said list; and,  
 6 forming groups based said initial and subsequent sequentially encountered symbols in  
 7 said items in said list which are common as between at least two of said items.

1 5. The list presentation method of claim 4, further comprising the step of ignoring  
 2 article symbols when performing said sorting steps.

1 6. The list presentation method of claim 4, wherein the labeling step comprises the  
 2 step of forming a label comprising said initial and subsequent sequentially encountered  
 3 symbols in said items in said list which are common as between at least two of said  
 4 items.

1 7. A list presentation system comprising:  
 2 a grouping component for grouping selected items in a list based on sequentially  
 3 positioned symbols in said items which are common to one another;  
 4 a group labler for labeling each group of selected items; and,  
 5 a presentation component for audibly presenting through a speech user interface  
 6 each group label and items in a group corresponding to a selected group label.

1 8. The list presentation system of claim 7, wherein said grouping component  
 2 comprises:  
 3 a parser for parsing a list of items into component symbols;  
 4 a comparator for identifying among items in a parsed list, sequentially positioned  
 5 component symbols which are common as between at least two of said items; and,  
 6 an associator for associating in a group said at least two items.

1 9. The list presentation system of claim 7, wherein said grouping component  
 2 comprises:

3 a sorter for sorting a list of items alphabetically both based on initial symbols in said  
4 items in said list and based on subsequent sequentially encountered symbols in said  
5 items in said list; and,  
6 an associator for associating in a group items in said sorted list having common initial  
7 and subsequent sequentially encountered symbols.

1 10. The list presentation system of claim 9, further comprising a symbol exclusion  
2 component for preventing said sorter from considering selected symbols when sorting a  
3 list of items.

4 11. An machine readable storage having stored thereon a computer program having  
5 a plurality of code sections executable by a machine for causing the machine to  
6 perform the steps of:

7 grouping selected items in a list based on sequentially positioned symbols in said  
8 items which are common to one another;  
9 labeling each group of selected items;

10 audibly presenting each group label through a speech user interface; and,  
11 responsive to a selection of one of said audibly presented group labels, presenting  
12 through said speech user interface items in a group corresponding to said selected  
13 group label.

1 12. The machine readable storage of claim 11, wherein the grouping step comprises  
2 the steps of:

3 parsing a list of items into component symbols;

4 identifying among said parsed items sequentially positioned component symbols  
5 which are common as between at least two of said items; and,

6 associating in a group said at least two items having said identified component  
7 symbols in common.

1 13. The machine readable storage of claim 12, wherein the labeling step comprises  
2 the steps of:

3 forming a label based on said sequentially positioned component symbols which  
4 are common as between said at least two of said items; and,  
5 assigning said formed label to said association.

1 14. The machine readable storage of claim 11, wherein the grouping step comprises  
2 the step of:

3 sorting said list alphabetically based on initial symbols in said items in said list;  
4 further sorting said list alphabetically based on subsequent sequentially encountered  
5 symbols in said items in said list; and,  
6 forming groups based said initial and subsequent sequentially encountered symbols in  
7 said items in said list which are common as between at least two of said items.

1 15. The machine readable storage of claim 14, further comprising the step of  
2 ignoring article symbols when performing said sorting steps.

1 16. The machine readable storage of claim 14, wherein the labeling step comprises  
2 the step of forming a label comprising said initial and subsequent sequentially  
3 encountered symbols in said items in said list which are common as between at least  
4 two of said items.